

R E P O R T

OF THE

ISLE OF WIGHT

Philosophical & Scientific Society

FOR THE YEAR 1867.

ESTABLISHED DECEMBER, 1850.



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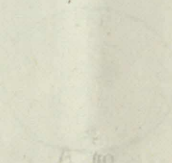
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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R E P O R T .

IN presenting the SEVENTEENTH REPORT of the proceedings of the Society, the Council believe that they may congratulate the members upon having passed through a more successful year than some preceding ones. This success they consider may, to a great extent, be attributed to the kindness of those members, who, at so much cost of time, and in some instances also of pecuniary outlay, have so efficiently filled the Lecture Chair during the past Session.

To the Rev. W. M. Frost, the President, they would express their sincere thanks for the two most able and interesting discourses delivered by him, and they have at the same time to add their acknowledgments for his courteous and liberal entertainment of the Members during his year of office.

The Rev. C. A. Bury has placed the Members under fresh obligation for the readiness with which he has, as on many former occasions, undertaken the vacant Lecture evening, as also for his hospitable reception of the Members at Sandown.

To Mr. Jabez Hughes the Council hold themselves much indebted for his two very able and instructive Lectures on the Art of Photography.

The Council are well satisfied with the result of the experiment of holding Meetings and delivering Lectures under their auspices in the different Towns of the Island, and they recommend a second year's repetition of that procedure. The Programme, as laid down at the commencement of the Session, has been carried out, with the exception of the non-delivery of two Lectures, which had been kindly promised by the Rev. C. Pritchard, and the Rev. E. Kell. The former Gentleman was prevented by the inclemency of the weather from travelling from Freshwater, and Mr. Kell's Lecture it was thought desirable to postpone until the ensuing Session.

In addition to the Meetings announced in the regular Programme, one held at Brooke, on August 28th, may be mentioned with great satisfaction. To Mr. and Mrs. Seeley of the Manor House, Brooke, the Council feel the especial thanks of the Society are due for the generous welcome accorded to the Members, both

individually and collectively. The Council have also to thank the Rev. W. Fox, of Brightstone, for the information he communicated to the Members during their researches on the Shore, as well as for the admirable exposition, with which he favored them in the Library of the Manor House after luncheon. This Meeting was attended by Members and Visitors to the number of Forty.

The Council wish it to be understood, that, though the Meetings and Lectures were on the whole attended with so much success, yet that they do not think it advisable that Public Lectures should altogether supersede Private Meetings and the Reading and Discussion of Papers by their Members. At Public Lectures it is impossible to discuss profitably and scientifically any new or debatable questions, which Members may desire to bring before the Society. The Council, therefore, hope that the old arrangement may be so far recurred to, as that some of the Evenings of the ensuing Session may be set apart for the Reading of Papers.

The Council regret to announce, that, since the last Report, very few additions have been made to the Museum and Library, and that much of the interest formerly manifested in the Establishment of a Museum has subsided. The Council would draw attention to this point, in the hope that Members and Friends of the Society may be induced to assist, during the next year, in filling up the many *lacunae* still existing in their several collections. The Council feel that this is most desirable, considering that many Visitors, interested in the Geology and Natural History of the Island generally, resort to the Museum for information; and it should be felt to be no small slur upon the Society that these Visitors should seek that information in vain. The general Public, both Residents and casual Visitors, still continue to visit the Museum in considerable numbers, with a view to which classes also the Society should feel their credit involved in making their Collections as complete as possible.

The Council also think that their Library and Reading Room are worthy of more attention than they at present receive, and that they might, by additions and better regulations, become more generally known and more extensively used.

The Council are glad to report that the Finances of the Society are in a satisfactory state, and that the debt, of which full particulars were given in the last year's report, has, through the liberality of Members, been liquidated. As then stated, there still remains room for the liberality of those, who have not yet contributed to the Fund, inasmuch as many repairs, both externally and internally, are required, as also carpets and furniture suitable to the Reading Room and Library. The number of Members has slightly decreased since the Report of last year, the consequence of deaths and retirements, but some of these losses have been supplied by the election of new Members. The Council would again urge upon Members the

necessity of each one using his influence to obtain New Members and Subscribers, since, without such continual addition to their numbers, the Council can never hope to extend the utility and benefits of the Society, or indeed to maintain it, on its present efficient footing. The number of Members at the present time is Seventy-four.

The two deaths of ordinary Members, which call for especial comment, are of gentlemen who have been connected with the Society since its formation, and who have both filled the office of President, and still remained upon the list of Vice-Presidents. The Rev. Edward McAll will be remembered generally for the interest he ever evinced in the welfare of the Society, and particularly for his reception of the Members at his Rectory, on occasion of their making a Geological excursion to Brooke and Atherfield, in the year 1857, and also for Donations and Specimens to the Museum, collected from those localities.

Dr. A. G. Martin also showed his interest in the Society by Donations. On more than one occasion he entertained the members, and added largely, especially to the Geological Collection. Since his death, the Council have received from Mrs. Martin a donation of her late husband's Herbarium, which is only waiting classification and arrangement by some competent hand, to make it a most acceptable acquisition in this particular department.

The Council are assured that, in offering their condolence to the Families of their late Associates, they are only expressing the common sentiments of the Members. To Mrs. Martin they would further tender their best thanks for the Donation above-mentioned.

The list of Honorary Members will no longer contain the honored name of MICHAEL FARADAY, whose death took place a few weeks since. The memory of this distinguished man will be cherished, and his loss deplored, not only for the genius and persevering labour, by which he raised himself from a lowly station to the very loftiest rank among the scientific Discoverers of his day, but also for the simplicity, modesty, and amiability of character, by which he endeared himself to all who had the happiness of his friendship or acquaintance.

It is not without great reluctance that the Council have been called upon to accept the resignation by B. Barrow, Esq. of his office of Honorary Secretary, which he has held since the formation of the Society in 1850. The Council feel that it would not be possible to estimate too highly the advantage derived to the Society from Mr. Barrow's able conduct of its affairs, and zealous devotion to its interests; and it is no little satisfaction to them, that, by the relinquishment of his late office, they are enabled, as some recognition of his long and valuable services, to propose him for election to the President's Chair for the ensuing year, a proposal in which they cannot but anticipate the unanimous acquiescence of the Members. To the

office vacated by Mr. Barrow, Dr. Turner has, at the request of the Council, and with the full concurrence of Mr. Barrow, kindly consented to be appointed, an arrangement which they doubt not will meet with the cordial approval of the Members.

In conclusion the Council think it advisable for the guidance of Members in proposing new Members and Subscribers to insert the Laws and By-Laws referring to the election of both these Classes.

The Annual Subscriptions shall be paid to the Treasurer and shall become due on the Third Tuesday in October.

For Members resident *within three miles* of the Society's Rooms the Subscription shall be One Guinea; for Members beyond that distance, Half-a-Guinea.

All Members when elected shall pay an Entrance Fee of One Guinea.

Subscribers may be admitted to the Reading Room *only* without Ballot, upon the recommendation of Two Members of the Society and upon the Payment of an Annual, Half-Yearly, Quarterly, Monthly, or Weekly Subscription to be fixed by the Council; such Subscribers having no privilege of attending the Meetings of the Society or of taking out Books or Periodicals.

SCALE OF SUBSCRIBERS' PAYMENTS.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.....	15	0
HALF-YEARLY	10	6
QUARTERLY	7	6
MONTHLY	3	6
WEEKLY.....	1	0

Since the Report was prepared, a collection of Fossils, the property of the late Dr. Martin, has been presented by Mrs. Martin. A collection of 200 Birds of the Island, shot and prepared by the late Mr. Henry Leeson, of Bonchurch; together with various skulls and skeletons of Birds, have been presented by Dr. Leeson. These valuable additions to the Museum, the Council are sure will be most thankfully acknowledged by the Members generally.

A list of all Donations of Specimens received during the last year is appended to the Report.

Donations of Specimens

RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1867.

ESTMOLOGICAL.

Burman Poongee or Priest's House	MAST. G. O'DONNELL.
Kaffir War Club	MR. T. W. NEWBALD.
Fenian Pike from Ireland	C. CRAMER, JUN., ESQ.

GEOLOGICAL.

Specimens Collected by the late Dr. Martin	MRS. MARTIN, <i>Ventnor.</i>
Ditto	DR. GOODE, <i>Derby.</i>

NATURAL HISTORY.

Two Tiger Skulls and two Shark ditto	MR. M. NEWMAN.
200 Birds of the Isle of Wight, Shot and Prepared by	DR. LEESON.
Skulls of Birds	"
Skull of a Monkey	"
Boar's Jaw	MRS. MARTIN.
Turtles Back and Head from the Island of Ascension	MR. ALBERT PHILBRICK.

BOTANY.

Island Plants, collected and preserved by the late Dr. Martin	MRS. MARTIN.
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ANTIQUITIES.

Urn from Swanmore	MR. FRAMPTON.
Brick made of Burnt Bones, found in the Urns	"
Powder Urns	"
Pieces of Pottery from St. Helens	C. CRAMER, ESQ.
Pottery from the New Forest	REV. E. KELL.
Urns from Swanmore	THE SOCIETY.

Lectures delivered and Papers read

DURING THE SESSION 1866—67.

1866.

SANDOWN: Nov. 5th...Opening Address: and on the uses, &c. of the Barometer and Thermometer. THE REV. W. M. FROST.

RYDE: Nov. 19th...Prologomenon upon the Psycho-Humanistic Faculties.
VIVIAN A. WEBBER, Esq.

RYDE: Dec. 17th...The Anglo-Saxon Race. VIVIAN A. WEBBER, Esq.

1867.

VENTNOR: Jan. 10th...Ocean Telegraphy. THOMAS WEBSTER, Esq.

RYDE: Jan. 14th...Photography, with a consideration of the Scientific Principles involved therein. JABEZ HUGHES, Esq.

RYDE: March 4th...The Nature and Effects of Gunpowder. F. G. WATSON, Esq.

SANDOWN: April 1st...The Origin of our Domestic Animals. THE REV. C. A. BURY.

RYDE: April 15th...The Electrical Principles of the Atlantic Telegraph.
J. PAUL, Esq.

VENTNOR: Aug. 20th...Photography, as an agent of Civilization; its Literature, Statistics, Commerce, and Social Influence.
JABEZ HUGHES, Esq.

BROOKE: Aug. 25th...The latest and very interesting Geological Discoveries in the Wealden Formation of the Isle of Wight. REV. W. FOX.

SANDOWN: Sept. 16th...The Planet Jupiter—description of Astronomical Refractory Telescope. THE REV. W. M. FROST.

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H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., K.S.I.

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